

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** September 27, 2007

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 4:53 p.m.

**ADJOURNED:** 5:17 p.m.

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### ATTENDING MEMBERS

Lonnell Conley, Chairman  
Ginny Cain  
Dane Mahern  
Mary Moriarty Adams  
Mike Speedy  
Ryan Vaughn

#### ABSENT MEMBERS

André Carson  
Scott Keller  
Angela Mansfield

### **AGENDA**

PROPOSAL NO. 404, 2007 - establishes a 20-mile-per-hour speed limit in the Copper Grove subdivision (District 25)

“Postponed” until October 18, 2007

Vote 5-0

Stormwater Annual Accounting Report – presented by Michael Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Public Works

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Public Works Committee of the City-County Council met on Thursday, September 27, 2007. Chair Lonnell Conley called the meeting to order at 4:53 p.m. with the following members present: Dane Mahern, Mary Moriarty Adams, Mike Speedy, and Ryan Vaughn. Absent were André Carson, Scott Keller and Angela Mansfield. Ginny Cain arrived shortly thereafter.

PROPOSAL NO. 404, 2007 - establishes a 20-mile-per-hour speed limit in the Copper Grove subdivision (District 25)

Councillor Vaughn said that he spoke with Councillor Plowman about the proposal, as it is in his district, and Councillor Plowman was not able to attend the meeting, but said that he has a couple of amendments that he would like to offer to the proposal.

Councillor Vaughn moved, seconded by Councillor Moriarty Adams, to “Postpone” Proposal No. 404, 2007 until October 18, 2007. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Stormwater Annual Accounting Report – presented by Michael Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Public Works

Michael Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Public Works (DPW), distributed a handout (attached as Exhibit A) highlighting his presentation. Mr. Williams said that Ordinance 43, 2001 requires that an annual report be given on the status of the Stormwater Utility’s funding and projects.

Jane Regensburg, Finance Manager for Stormwater Utility Accounting, DPW, addressed page 2 of Exhibit A, and stated that the total estimated revenue for 2007 is based on a collection rate of 93% of the total billed amount. It includes the amount certified to the Treasurer for collection payable with the tax bills, as well as third-party billing that is done for the tax-exempt and non-tax entities. She said that DPW received a note from the Treasurer’s Office this week that \$8.6 million was given to the Controller’s Office for Stormwater that was collected in charges from November 11, 2006 to August 10, 2007.

Mr. Williams said that there have also been some costs for the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation and \$300,000 towards a new property system for the County that came out of the overall Stormwater Utility fund. Mr. Williams said that the original ordinance established the rate at \$1.25 per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU), which is made up of 2,800 square feet of impervious surface if the property is not residential. Mr. Williams said that the rate was revised in 2005 to \$2.25 per ERU.

Councillor Speedy asked if impervious surface includes sidewalks, driveways, roofs, etc. Mr. Williams answered in the affirmative. He added that the current rate of \$2.25 is generating enough revenue to support the operation of the Stormwater Utility.

John Oakley, Assistant Administrator for Environmental Engineering, DPW, said that the second slide on page 4 of Exhibit A shows that there have been a total of eight applications received for the current period in 2007 and all of those have been approved. He said that when the Utility was first created, there was effort placed into development of the User Fee Credit manual, which allows non-residential users to apply for credits on their user fee if they meet certain criteria. He said that the more that one

does to reduce the impact to public infrastructure, the greater the credit can be. He said that currently the maximum credit is approximately 67%. Mr. Oakley said that the first slide on page 5 of Exhibit A shows project expenditures up through June 30, 2007, and the far right-hand column gives the phase of the projects. He said that majority of the projects are physical capital projects that result in capital output, but some of the expenditures are for studies or plans. The second slide illustrates the anticipated funding for the remainder of 2007. Mr. Oakley said that some of the larger projects are the stormwater and drainage improvements.

Ms. Regensburg said that page 6 only shows expenditures from January 1 to June 30, 2007. She said that some of the available balances are incorrect because some of the expenditures took place after June 30.

Councillor Speedy asked if the funds and revenue for the fund is collected with the property taxes. Mr. Williams answered that the majority of it is. Councillor Speedy asked if some of the projects are being held because of cash flow issues, and if cash flow problems are being experienced as a result of the delay in the receipt of property tax funds. Mr. Williams answered in the negative. Councillor Speedy asked if the fund will be able to be spent down for the remainder of the year. Mr. Williams answered in the affirmative. Councillor Speedy asked why more money has been spent in the last three months than in the previous six months. Mr. Williams answered that it is due to the process of getting projects ready and also has to do with the construction season. He added that an additional appropriation of \$5 million for Capital was also awarded earlier this year, of which DPW is planning to spend before the end of the year. Councillor Speedy asked if borrowing money for cash flow issues is anticipated. Mr. Williams answered in the negative.

Mr. Oakley said that page 7 illustrates some of the projects. The Mars Hill project will be approximately \$7.4 million with the other two phases, which is approximately \$3.2 million more than the original estimate. He said that it was discovered that there was a greater need than what was initially anticipated. In addition, some significant reconstruction on the street was needed to drain water away from the streets. He added that the goal is also to build sustainable infrastructure in all the projects. Mr. Oakley said that the Honnen Dr. & Hague Rd. project was done as a follow-up to an old Barrett Law project that was completed in 2001. He said that ideally the drainage should have been able to be done with it, but the funds were not available. Mr. Oakley said that the Countywide Stormwater Improvements were done as a result of the Maintenance and Operations Division's significant backload of small neighborhood projects that were not going to be able to be done. The Stormwater Utility first completed about 33 small projects around the county. With the rate increase and more money into the Operations Division's budget, the Stormwater Utility was allowed to complete projects over and above the statutory limits that the Operations Division has for specific projects. Mr. Oakley said that nine projects were actually completed, as the Operations Division completed one project.

Councillor Cain asked Mr. Oakley where the Countywide Stormwater Improvement sites are. Mr. Oakley answered that there the 2007 sites included:

- The vicinity of 65<sup>th</sup> Street and Keystone Avenue
- 7000 N. Dover Road
- Schofield Avenue

- Mertz Drive (around Raymond Street and I-65)
- Norfolk Street and Patricia Street
- 4200 N. Tacoma Avenue (near Fall Creek)
- 65<sup>th</sup> Street and Johnson Road
- 5800 Fall Creek Parkway
- 610 W. Troy Avenue
- Skiles Test Park (infrastructure repair).

Councillor Moriarty Adams asked if there are any projects scheduled for Kessler Boulevard to address the flooding issue. Mr. Oakley asked which segment. Councillor Moriarty Adams answered that she believes that it is just before Grandview Avenue near Michigan Road. Mr. Oakley said that segment of Kessler Boulevard is being examined with the 59<sup>th</sup> Street and Grandview Avenue Sewage Tank Elimination Program (STEP) project, which has a stormwater component included. He said that during the construction of the sanitary sewer improvements, as part of the 56<sup>th</sup> Street, 57<sup>th</sup> Street, and Grandview Avenue STEP project, an unknown storm system was found along Kessler Boulevard that was in very bad repair. Segments of the storm system were replaced by the contractor putting the sewers in, but it was found that the whole system is inadequate because it runs all the way to Crooked Creek. He said that there are a number of deficiencies in the pipe between Grandview Avenue and Crooked Creek, and the condition is so bad that it needs to be replaced. He said that a full-scale drainage improvement project is being done in this area, as there are some problem areas within the boundaries of the STEP project that were identified as critical projects in the initial stormwater master plan. Mr. Oakley said that if there is a STEP project occurring in an area that was initially identified in the stormwater master plan, then the Stormwater Utility allocates money to those projects.

Chair Conley sent condolences to the family of Elwood Black. He said that Mr. Black was a fine person who served on the Council for a number of years. He said that Mr. Black traveled throughout and he was well-loved and well-respected everywhere he went.

### Conclusion

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Public Works Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Lonnell Conley, Chair